

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 00925 141620Z

41

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 (ISO) W
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P R 141539Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3417

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE WARSAW 0925

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP

SUBJECT: TRAVELING CONGRESSMAN BINGHAM

REF: STATE 031403

1. EMBASSY WISHES TO CALL THE DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY'S ATTENTION TO TIMING PROBLEM IN THE PROJECTED TRAVEL OF CONGRESSMAN BINGHAM. THE TENTATIVE ITINERARY WOULD HAVE THE CONGRESSMAN ARRIVE ON HOLY THURSDAY FOR PROGRAMMING ON GOOD FRIDAY (MARCH 28). THESE ARE DEEPLY RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS IN POLAND AND THE EMBASSY ATTEMPT TO PROGRAM SOMAGONE ON THESE DAYS COULD BE CONSIDERED OFFENSIVE TO THE SENSITIVE CHURCH HIERARCHY. THE LOCAL REGIME RESPECTS THE PREDOMINANTLY CATHOLIC POPULATION'S OBSERVANCE OF THE EASTER RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES AND GOVERNMENTAL AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES ARE HELD TO A MINIMUM.

2. IF CONGRESSMAN BINGHAM'S ITINERARY CAN BE RE-ARRANGED, WE SUGGEST THAT HE ARRIVE IN POLAND AFTER BUDAPEST. WE WOULD BE VERY DELIGHTED TO ARRANGE MEETINGS FOR HIM AT THE TIME AT THE POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, THE WARSAW
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